

August 6, 2003

Public Notice for 401 Certification

**Vino Farms
WDID No. 1B03051WNSO
Sonoma County**

On March 13, 2003, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (hereinafter Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. William VanDerWall on behalf of Vino Farms, Inc. (hereinafter applicant), requesting Water Quality Certification and/or Waste Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects) for a stream bank stabilization project at Vino Farms located at 8000 Westside Road in Healdsburg, Sonoma County. A complete application fee has not been received by this office; therefore, the application has not been deemed complete. The proposed project will cause disturbances to riparian habitat associated with the Geyserville Hydrologic Subarea No. 114.25.

The purpose of the project is to stabilize a section of the bank of the Russian River. The applicant is proposing to place 350 cubic yards of ½ to 1-ton rock riprap approximately 4 feet thick and at a 1:1 slope up to the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM). Woven filter fabric will be placed between the riprap and gravel fill backing. Above the riprap section, the bank will be constructed of compacted earth and graded to a 2:1 slope, which will be seeded with grass. In addition, willow and cottonwood shoots will be planted in the entire project area.

The applicant has applied for a permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers, pursuant to the Clean Water Act, Section 404, and a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (1603 Permit) from the California Department of Fish and Game. The project is in the process of being evaluated pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A permit will not be issued until evidence of a determination on this project pursuant to CEQA has been received by this office.

The project is scheduled to take place from July 1, through October 15, 2003.

Staff is proposing to regulate this project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act Authority. In addition, staff will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first date of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Andrew Jensen by phone at (707) 576-2683, or e-mail jensa@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.